Remarks

In the first and second paragraphs of the Official Action, Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 11-13 and 17-21, and also rejects claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

5   anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,897,616 issued to Kanevsky ("Kanevsky"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The claims recite the extraction and comparison of at least one grammar. It is noted that grammars are speaker dependent and text dependent. A grammar describes how a

10   particular phrase is spoken by a particular person.

Kanevsky does not use grammars. Kanevsky addresses recognizing (e.g. decoding) the text of the word spoken through automatic speech recognition (ASR) and then attempts to match the recognized text to a set of stored

15   text. The system then performs a challenge/response test, whereby the user is requested to answer preferably several questions that only the user would know, and the user's response is recognized again using ASR and compared to the answers stored in the server. The problem with using names

20   is that ASR tends not to work well in the absence of known pronunciation patterns. Because names need not follow a universal set of pronunciation rules, ASR is not well suited for them, even though Kanevsky uses them. Kanevsky

attempts to get around this problem by asking several challenge/response questions, which can improve accuracy of the recognition but would annoy the user. Kanevsky never employs the use of grammars as the claimed invention does.

5   It is noted that Kanevsky also addresses the use of acoustic models of the speaker to further verify identification of the user, but those acoustic models are described throughout Kanevsky as text-independent. Acoustic models describe information about the user's

10   voice, but not how the user speaks a particular phrase, which is what a grammar does. Thus, the acoustic models are not the same as grammars.

        Thus, claims 1-3, and 11-21 are patentably distinguishable over Kanevsky.

15   In paragraphs 3 and 4, Examiner rejects claims 4-10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanevsky. This rejection is respectfully traversed.
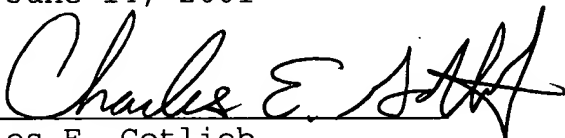
        Examiner relies on the 102 rejection above for this rejection, and as described above, claim 1, from which

20   claims 4-10 ultimately depend, is patentably distinguishable over Kanevsky. In addition, Examiner's reasoning for making the modification, less memory required, could not be located by Applicants anywhere in

Kanevsky. Furthermore, it isn't clear how the addition of the second recognizer would cause the system to require less memory or other storage, nor is it clear from where a motivation to reduce the storage would have come. Thus,

5 claims 4-10 are also patentably distinguishable over Kanevsky.

Thus, claims 1-22 are patentably distinguishable over Kanevsky. Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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